

The Hatchet

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POPULAR • SCIENCE.

In the Scientific American for February 24, 1900, was illustrated the remarkable twins Rosalina and Maria, who were both joined together in much the same manner as the Siamese twins. An operation was recently successfully performed upon them at Rio Janeiro and they were cut apart.

The Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences has broken ground for the central section of the Museum on the Eastern Parkway. The new section will have a frontage of 140 feet on the Parkway and a depth of 122 feet. It will be four stories in height, and the ground floor will have an auditorium capable of seating 1,250 persons.

A new species of petrel has been discovered on the island of Kauai (Sandwich Islands) by a Stanford University graduate, Mr. A. Searle. He has also found on the same island a new species of sea gull. He is going to Guam to explore that island and to make a collection of birds and fishes for the famous Bishop Museum of Honolulu.

A section of the tree which was over David Livingstone's grave has been received by the Royal Geographical Society of London and placed with the other Livingstone's relics in its possessions. An iron telegraph pole now marks the spot where the great African explorer breathed his last. The huge block of wood was carried on the shoulders of the natives from the heart of Africa to the coast.

The curved pages of an ordinary book are injurious to the eyes. Mr. F. G. Murphy shows that the curved page causes a constant change of the focus of the eye as it reads from one side to the other, necessitating a continued effort on the part of the ciliary muscles. The light also falls unequally upon both sides, further interfering with a continued clear field of vision. He, therefore, suggests that the printed lines run parallel with the binding instead of at right angles to it, so that all parts of the line would be at an equal distance from the eye and be equally lighted.

The National Academy of Sciences of the United States has recommended to the trustees of Columbia University that the Barnard medal for meritorious service to science be given to Prof. Roentgen for the discovery of the X-rays. The award will be made at the Commencement of the University on June 13. The gold medal was established by the provisions of the will of the former President of the University, the late Prof. F. A. P. Barnard. It is awarded every quinquennial period to any person who shall have made such discovery in physical or astronomical science as in the judgment of the National Academy of Sciences shall be esteemed most worthy of the honor.

For several months passed experiments have been conducted at Sassari, in Sardinia, by Dr. Fermi, Dr. Cossul-Rocca, and Dr. Lumbau, for the purpose of ridding that town of the pests of mosquitoes with which it is overrun. The doctors effectually destroyed the larvae by distributing vast quantities of petroleum in the swamps and other spots where the insects bred, and the mosquitoes were exterminated by chlorine and other powerful destructive chemicals. The doctors in their report consider it possible to free any town invested with mosquitoes by this means, provided it is not too unfavorably situated. It is an economical remedy, costing only about \$250 per annum for a town possessing a population of about 50,000 inhabitants.

The Nuova Cimento contains an interesting article by P. Gamba, giving the result of his experiments upon the elasticity of marble. Plates of marble were impregnated with different liquids and the effect measured. The experiments are best carried out with water, as by drying, the marble may be slowly brought back to its original condition, the curves of deformation being the same before and after the action. The deformation is greater for the wet plate, and the residual effect is also greater; there is thus a considerable increase in the flexibility of the wet marble. Oil, glycerin, and solutions of paraffin give similar results, although the marble cannot be forced from the liquid and brought back to its original state as with water. Petroleum, however, causes no difference in the flexibility. Glycerin gives the greatest effect.

Every soldier in the British Army carries in his haversack what is known as the "Emergency Ration." This consists of a small tin cylinder, similar to a pocket spirit flask, divided into two compartments. One of these is filled with 4 ounces of cocoa paste, and the other contains a similar quantity of concentrated beef (pemmican). As it title implies the ration is not to be used except in the cases of direct necessity, and if consumed in small quantities it will maintain strength for thirty-six hours. The tin has to be produced at parades and daily inspections, and the soldier who does not display his ration is severely dealt with. The tin must not be opened on any account, except by order of an officer. The ingredients may be either spread upon a biscuit like butter or boiled up as cocoa or soup. Each tin contains sufficient quantities of the food-stuffs to make four pints of each.

A system of telegraphy by which signals are transmitted by means of rays emitted from an arc lamp has been invented by Carl Zickler, of Brunn, Austria. Rays of short wave length (mostly ultra-violet rays) are made use of, says the Western Electrician. These rays are sent out from the sending station at intervals corresponding to those of telegraphic signals, and in the direction of the receiving station, where they produce weak electric waves, by which the signals are made visible as sparks, or are made audible by telephone or electric bell, or, if preferred, may be printed by Morse apparatus. The most serious objection to the apparatus, however, is said to be the lack of speed, for so far it has been impracticable to arrange transmitters and receivers to accomplish more than eight to twelve words a minute.

GEMS OF THOUGHT.

In our neighbor we should observe only what is good.

I fell into the habit years ago of talking with God, and it became so natural that in all my open spaces I do it without thought.—Horace Bushnell.

Life strikes many an unheeded, prophetic little note. A word, a trivial happening, gives hint, like a theme in music, of something that is to be more or less recurrent all the way along.—A. D. T. Whitney.

Be cheerful; do not brood over fond hopes unrealized until a chain, link after link, is fastened on each thought and wound around the heart. Nature intended you to be the fountain-spring of cheerfulness and social life, and not the traveling monument of despair and melancholy.—Arthur Helps.

The entire object of true education is to make people not do the right things, but enjoy the right things.—Ruskin.

A psalm which cultivates the spirit of gratitude is a psalm which we ought often to read. If we were more grateful both our joy and our strength would be increased. Gratitude is born in hearts which take the time to count up past mercies.—Charles E. Jefferson.

Man is no better than a leaf driven by the wind until he has conquered his lonely duties. This makes the man—the habit of confronting great things in solitude, and chiefly the habit of conversing with God alone, and of filling the soul with his strength.—John Pulsford.

There is no good in praying for anything unless you will also try for it.—Henry Van Dyke.

Four things come not back—the spoken word, the sped arrow, the past life, the neglected opportunity.—Hazlitt.

A fox and a hound belonging to a gentleman in Kennebec, Me., are affectionate companions, and constantly sport and sleep with each other. When both were young they were placed together and have ever since continued frolicsome comrades.

If you want to be miserable think about yourself, about what you want, what you like, what respect people ought to pay you, and what people think of you.—Charles Kingsley.

There is a path in which all children of God are to walk, and in which God alone can accompany them.—Denham Smith.

Be courageous, be independent. Only remember where the true courage and independence come in.—Phillips Brooks.

Exercise faith and it will grow. If conscious of a weak faith, do not be discouraged, but try a more perfect obedience and a more active service. Trusting increases trust. Confidence is the general that leads one forward in life's conflict to victory.

You want to be true, and you are trying to be. Learn two things—never be discouraged because good things get on slowly here, and never fail daily to do that good which lies next your hand. Do not be in a hurry, but be diligent. Enter into that sublime patience of the Lord.—George Macdonald.

CURIOUS FACTS.

The prune is a species of plum and the prune tree resembles a large plum tree. When the fruit on the trees is ripe the trees are slightly shaken and the prunes fall to the ground. Sometimes a canvas is laid to protect the fruit from the earth when it falls. The fruit that remains on the tree is left a week to ripen, and the tree is slightly shaken again. At the third or fourth shaking all the prunes have come down. Boys and girls are hired to gather the fruit. They put it in large boxes and empty it in a metal dipper. The dipper holds fifty pounds, just the contents of one of the boxes. The dipper is lowered into a caldron of strong, boiling lye, and left there for a quarter of a minute to soften the fruit. The prunes are then immersed in cold water and thoroughly rinsed. They are then laid in wooden trays in hand cars, and rolled over a wooden track to the drying grounds. Here they are put in wooden bins, where they go through a sweating process. After they have been sweated they are taken out, sorted and packed.

Los Angeles draws its electricity turbulent mountain river ninety miles away. The 12,000 horse-power runs street cars and machinery, and supplies the city with light and heat.

The curious fact that corn, potatoes and other plants thrive better when placed in rows running north and south has now been proved. Planted thus they obtain more uniform and regular light.

On September 9th next people will date their letters—not all people, but a large number—9-9-99. How long will it be before a similar collection of numbers occur, and how often will it occur in the twentieth century, asks the London Chronicle.

Cornstalk disease is the name given to an affection occurring in cattle as a result of eating cornstalks and corn fodder that seems to have been rendered poisonous by moldiness and fermentation. The disorder is usually confined to animals under four years of age, and it runs a rapid course, dealing death in from four to thirty-six hours.

One of the horses in a New York livery stable which took fire the other day resisted all efforts of the firemen to lead it out of the burning building because it was made of wood, a fact that did not develop in the dim light caused by the smoke until nearly every man had tugged on the bridle. The horse was life-size, and had been used to display harness, and when not in active service was kept in a rear stable.

A Lewiston, Me., man received a curiosity the other day in the shape of a postal card which he had mailed several weeks before to his son, who is at present traveling in Europe, and which his son had returned to him in a letter. The card had followed the young man over a large part of the Continent, and finally had reached him in Munich. The missive was covered with postmarks and addresses, so that the original color of the pasteboard was hardly to be recognized.

The tails of fishes are much larger than their fins because their tails are their chief instruments of motion.

NOT IN THE TRUST!

How refreshing, everything is "Trust" nowadays and when we find a company, corporation, firm or individual, conducting business outside and independent of a trust, we feel like shouting hallelujah! In our advertising columns today it will be seen that the Purity Ice Company is NOT in the trust. People of Washington take due notice thereof and govern yourselves accordingly.

Wm. M. Drury's Restaurant, 20th and L streets is the best place in the northwest to get cool beverages during the heated spell.

Midway between Georgetown and the Navy Yard, midway between the river-front and boundary, a proper and convenient stopping place for all who are hungered and athirst. It is a "happy hunting ground" because you don't have to hunt long to find it, and having found it you'll be made happier still because of the pleasantness of the place, the peculiarity of the surroundings, which even Potiphar pronounced exquisite. If we were to dive deeper, we would perhaps discover other gems, but none would have a finer setting than John Fitzmorris, the genial proprietor of the "Midway."

George Nesline, 635 L street, N. W., near 7th street, is selling a fine beer for 75 cts. per case of 24 bottles, delivered in any part of the city.

Our readers will do well to note the advertisement of the Perpetual Building Association in another column. Those wishing to make and save money, with small means, can not do better than invest their savings with them. The Association is conducted on the most approved business principles, its officers and members are composed of our most solid and careful business men, and you can at any time withdraw from it, which is a privilege not permitted by any other association in Washington.

A good dentist is well to know and Dr. L. P. Farely, of 2002 14th street, northwest, is one of the best surgeon dentists in Washington.

There are numerous handsome, elegant places of public entertainment in Washington, and it is a difficult matter to individualise or discriminate as to the relative merits of the one or the other. Therefore, it is not safe, unless one has absolute knowledge of the facts, to talk unreservedly of one particular place. It were no disparagement, however, of other similar establishments to say that 907 7th street, n. w., is among the best in the town. The recent improvements and elaborate decorations of this particular resort makes it one of the most attractive and decidedly pleasant places for those who would eat, drink, and be merry.

"Rioja" is a delicious dinner claret. The most popular dinner wine, and rapidly superseding Bordeaux claret. Chris Xander is the sole distributor in Washington, 909 7th street, N. W.

The crab feasts gotten up by Mr. Wm. R. Nau, at 907 7th street, N. W. are praised by all those who have attended them. Lovers of properly prepared crabs should go there and partake of them.

Fritz Roessler of 483 C Street Northwest, is very popular, he just knows how to tickle the palates of his numerous customers, and provides for them the very best, which makes them talk, and when they do it, it is all about Fritz and the excellent beer, wine and liquors that he dispenses.

Progressive in all things is good. Therefore it is well to know progressive people and to keep in the line. To do this we ask the readers of THE HATCHET when ordering a suit of clothes, to try The Progressive Tailors. A trial order will convince that their name is well earned. They will make a spring suit of clothes, all wool, to your measure, a perfect fit, guaranteed, for \$12.00. Call on them at 319 Pennsylvania ave., N. W.

Mr. J. M. Klein has been prevailed upon by many disappointed traders in stock to devote his time and attention specially to trading on share of profits. He is now prepared to handle accounts in this manner. His success has been marvelous.

The British Empire is forty times larger than the German empire.

The 20th Century Dining and Dairy Lunch at 628 Pennsylvania avenue, northwest, opened as we advertised. The establishment is in every way what we claimed it would be; moderate in prices and handsome in fitting, with one of the best and most popular manager Mr. William Krause, of Richmond, Va., a name well known in all parts of

Rambling's Market is selling the best New York Cider at 25 cents per gallon. Opposite the Vendome Hotel, 3d street and Pennsylvania avenue Northwest.

PROPOSALS will be received at the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. until 12 o'clock noon, July 3, 1900, and publicly opened immediately thereafter, to furnish the Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., a quantity of first copper and zinc. Bank proposals will be furnished upon application to the Navy Yard, Washington, D. C. A. S. KENNY, Paymaster General U. S. N. 6-14-00

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